



October 13, 2009

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's upcoming announcement on network neutrality. According to your statement highlighted in *The Washington Post* (September 22, 2009), the government would play a far more aggressive role in policing the public's unfettered access to Internet services and content under a proposal offered by the FCC. Heavily regulating wireless networks will reduce the investment in my state and cut into job growth – two issues that affect my constituents deeply.

In Mississippi, the rapid rise of the wireless market is a great success story. Nearly all residents and businesses have access to advanced wireless phones and networks, while the strong, competitive market keeps bringing new innovation. The reason for this success has been the absence of government interference. Thus, it is imperative that the FCC retain the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that has built the robust wireless and online networks we have today.

The FCC can take another step by avoiding network neutrality regulation of broadband deployment. Bringing broadband to all areas of the nation, most importantly the Mississippi Delta also requires investment in networks, well-paying local jobs and the technology needed for our cities and towns to grow new businesses that depend on communications. I think we all agree that a fair and open Internet is important, but your proposed regulations on traditional and wireless broadband service will shut off the Internet to many constituents in my state and further cost us jobs and investment. Don't close the door to opportunity and jobs for people in my state with unnecessary new regulations. I thank you for your attention.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ed Johnson'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed Johnson, CEO
Delta Economic Development Center